

southern leanings and affinities, to be sure, but less susceptible, I like to think, than most of the states south of us to the coaxing and soft words of Republican mischief makers. Nonetheless, we Democrats would be well advised, in my opinion, to remain on the alert for possible Republican efforts to defeat us by creating dissension within our own ranks. Our best defense in these circumstances will be to remain steadfast in our loyalty to the great Party which we are honored to serve and to be a part — the Democratic Party, the Party of crisis, the Party of the people.

Confronted as we are by grave national and international problems, it is reassuring that at the helm of our ship of state is a Democrat and that charting our course into an uncertain future is a political organization that has earned its reputation by meeting national and international emergencies.

It is comforting, too, that in an era of drastic social and economic upheaval, requiring drastic adjustments, our interests as individual American citizens are being safeguarded by a leadership which springs from a political party which has remained undeviatingly the Party of the people from the time of Jefferson and Jackson to the present day. Any party of the people can expect castigation and ill treatment at the hands of the diehards. It has always been this way.

We may recall that the President of Yale University said of the popular Jefferson administration in 1801 that meant "a country governed by blockheads and knaves." But Jefferson will always live as symbol of our democratic form of government.

When Jackson vetoed a bill extending the Second Bank of the United States. Nicholas Biddle called his action a "manifesto of anarchy", and Chancellor Kent called Jackson an "ignorant, reckless, vain and malignant tyrant."

Wilson, Roosevelt, and Truman fared no better. One aggrieved millionaire in 1936 called Roosevelt "a communist of the worst degree."

Yet, by any correct interpretation of the record, political success has always been overwhelmingly with those who have wavered least — who have seen the fundamental importance of a strong alliance with the popular position. The former presidents who have done this — Jefferson, Jackson, Wilson, Roosevelt, and Truman — are the ones that are celebrated in history.

As Harry Truman pointed out, the Party has won with men who have understood that the strength of the Party lay with the people. I